



SYNOPSIS

House Bills and Joint Resolutions
2015 Maryland General Assembly Session

January 28, 2015
Schedule 8

PLEASE NOTE: February 13 – Bill introduction deadline.
All bills must be given to the Chief Clerk by 5:00 P.M. on Thursday, February 12.
As required by House Rule 32(b), bills introduced after this date will be referred to the House Rules and Executive Nominations Committee.

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 27, 2015

HB 134 Charles County Delegation

CHARLES COUNTY – PROPERTY TAX CREDIT – NEW OR EXPANDING BUSINESSES

Authorizing Charles County or a municipal corporation in Charles County to grant a property tax credit against the county or municipal corporation property tax imposed on property that is leased by a new or expanding business that creates 10 or more full-time jobs in an industry targeted for expansion by the Charles County Economic Development Commission.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

TP, § 9-310(e) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

Department of Legislative Services

90 State Circle, Annapolis, Maryland 21401-1991

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HB 135 Charles County Delegation**CHARLES COUNTY – SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION EXCISE TAX RATES**

Authorizing the County Commissioners of Charles County to alter the school construction excise tax base rates on specified types of dwellings in specified fiscal years in a specified manner; and providing that the school construction excise tax rates may not increase in specified fiscal years by more than the percentage change in the average statewide school building cost as calculated by the Interagency Committee on School Construction.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

LG, § 20-804 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 136 Charles County Delegation**CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – CHARLES COUNTY – SOUTHERN MARYLAND CAROUSEL**

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Southern Maryland Carousel Group, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Southern Maryland Carousel project, located in Charles County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 137 Charles County Delegation**CHARLES COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – LICENSE FEES**

Altering in Charles County fees for specified holders of alcoholic beverages licenses; and altering in Charles County a specified annual fee for providing live entertainment or outdoor table service by a holder of a Class B–R (restaurant) on–sale beer, wine and liquor license, Class B–RB (restaurant/bar) on–sale beer, wine and liquor license, Class B–T (tavern) on–sale beer, wine and liquor license, Class B–N (nightclub) on–sale beer, wine and liquor license, or Class B–H (hotel) on–sale beer, wine and liquor license.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Art. 2B, Various Sections - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 138 Delegate Conaway

HIGHER EDUCATION – SEXUAL ASSAULT POLICY – “YES MEANS YES”

Requiring, by August 1, 2016, that a policy on sexual assault adopted by the governing board of each institution of higher education include a specified affirmative consent standard; requiring a specified written policy on sexual assault to include a specified standard and statements; requiring a specified sexual assault policy to provide that specified circumstances negate a valid excuse to an alleged lack of affirmative consent; providing that the standard used in a specified determination is the preponderance of evidence; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

ED, § 11-601(a) - amended and § 11-602 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary and Appropriations

HOUSE BILLS INTRODUCED JANUARY 28, 2015**HB 139 Delegate Beitzel**

GARRETT COUNTY – ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES – SUNDAY SALES

Repealing a provision of law making Sunday sales by holders of specified alcoholic beverages licenses in Garrett County contingent on the consumer placing an order for a meal at a specified time or the consumer being otherwise entitled to a meal on the premises as part of a prearranged event.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

Art. 2B, § 11-512 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 140 Delegate Davis

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION – RESTRICTIONS AFTER SERVICE

Prohibiting an individual from receiving financial benefit from public service companies, persons, or entities until at least 1 year has passed after the individual left service with the Public Service Commission as a commissioner; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

PU, § 2-306 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 141 Delegate O'Donnell

ELECTION LAW – 2016 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION – EARLY VOTING

Altering the days for early voting for the 2016 presidential primary election.
EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 142 Delegate Krebs, et al

INCOME TAX – PERSONAL EXEMPTIONS – INFLATION ADJUSTMENT

Increasing the amount of specified exemptions allowed under the State income tax for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, by a specified cost-of-living adjustment; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-211(c) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 143 Delegate Waldstreicher, et al

CREATION OF A STATE DEBT – MONTGOMERY COUNTY – JUBILEE ASSOCIATION OF MARYLAND COMMUNITY CENTER

Authorizing the creation of a State Debt not to exceed \$300,000, the proceeds to be used as a grant to the Board of Directors of the Jubilee Association of Maryland, Inc. for the acquisition, planning, design, construction, repair, renovation, reconstruction, and capital equipping of the Jubilee Association of Maryland Community Center project, located in Montgomery County; providing for disbursement of the loan proceeds, subject to a requirement that the grantee provide and expend a matching fund; etc.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 144 Delegate Krebs**INCOME TAX SUBTRACTION MODIFICATION – RETIREMENT INCOME (FAIRNESS IN TAXATION FOR RETIREES ACT)**

Including income from specified retirement plans within a subtraction modification allowed under the Maryland income tax for retired individuals who are at least 65 years old or who are disabled or whose spouse is disabled; applying the Act to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-209 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 145 Howard County Delegation**HOWARD COUNTY – APPOINTED ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE HEARING BOARD – COMPENSATION HO. CO. 6–15**

Providing that the compensation for the Howard County Appointed Alcoholic Beverage Hearing Board shall be the amount set by the Howard County Council.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

Art. 2B, § 15-107.1(f) - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 146 Delegate Krebs, et al**INCOME TAX – STANDARD DEDUCTION – INFLATION ADJUSTMENT**

Increasing the minimum and maximum limitation amounts of the standard deduction allowed under the State income tax for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2015, by a specified cost-of-living adjustment; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-217(d) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 147 Delegate Krebs, et al**TAXPAYER PROTECTION ACT – STATE INCOME TAX – CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ADJUSTMENTS**

Increasing specified State income tax rate bracket thresholds for all taxable years beginning after December 31, 2014, by a specified cost-of-living adjustment; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 10-105(e) - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 148 Delegate Rosenberg**INTEREST RATE ON TAX DEFICIENCIES AND REFUNDS**

Altering the calculation of the annual interest rate that the Comptroller sets for tax deficiencies and refunds.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

TG, § 13-604 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 149 Delegate Krebs, et al**STATE PROPERTY TAX – HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT CAP REDUCTION**

Reducing from 110% to 105% the homestead property tax credit percentage for the State property tax; and applying the Act to taxable years beginning after June 30, 2016.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

TP, § 9-105(e)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 150 Delegate Morhaim**SECRETARY OF STATE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL – CHARITABLE ENFORCEMENT AND PROTECTION OF CHARITABLE ASSETS – WORKGROUP REPORTS – EXTENSION**

Extending the due date on the final report from July 1, 2015 to December 1, 2016, and increasing the number of interim reports, of the workgroup convened by the Secretary of State and the Attorney General to study information that should be reported to the Secretary of State by charitable organizations, charitable representatives, and fund-raising counsel.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

Chapter 654 of the Acts of 2014, § 2 - amended

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 151 Delegate Waldstreicher, et al**MARYLAND WHOLESOME MEAT ACT – PROHIBITIONS – EQUINES AND EQUINE MEAT**

Prohibiting a person from buying, selling, transporting, or offering or receiving for sale or transportation any equine carcass or the meat of any equine if the person knows or reasonably should know that the carcass or meat will be used for human consumption; and prohibiting a person from buying, selling, transporting, or offering or receiving for sale or transportation any equine if the person knows or reasonably should know that the equine is intended for slaughter for human consumption.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

AG, § 4-123(19) and (20) - amended and § 4-123(21) - added

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 152 Delegates Reznik and Luedtke**COMMUNITY COLLEGES – TUITION WAIVER FOR DISABLED INDIVIDUALS – REQUIREMENTS**

Repealing the requirement that any student financial aid, other than a student loan, received by a specified disabled student must be applied first to pay the student's tuition prior to receiving an exemption from the payment of tuition at community colleges; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

ED, § 16-106(c) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 153 Delegate Stein, et al**CRIMINAL LAW – ANIMAL CRUELTY – LEAVING DOGS OUTSIDE AND UNATTENDED IN EXTREME WEATHER**

Prohibiting a person from leaving a dog outside and unattended by use of a specified restraint for a period longer than 15 minutes when a hazardous weather warning issued by the National Weather Service is in effect for the local area; prohibiting a person from leaving a dog outside and unattended by use of a specified restraint for a period longer than 1 hour when the local temperature is above or below a specified temperature; and establishing penalties, not to exceed \$1,000 per conviction, for violation of the Act.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CR, § 10-623 - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 154 Delegate Davis**MARYLAND HOME BUILDER REGISTRATION ACT – GUARANTY FUND – CLAIMS**

Increasing to \$7,500 the maximum amount of a claim against the Maryland Home Builder Guaranty Fund for which the Consumer Protection Division may issue a specified proposed order; and increasing to 60 the number of days, following specified notice by the Division, after which the Division may bring a specified action in court against a registered home builder who fails to reimburse the Fund in full for payment of a specified claim.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

BR, §§ 4.5-707 and 4.5-711 - amended

Assigned to: Economic Matters

HB 155 Allegany County Delegation**VIDEO LOTTERY TERMINALS – SMALL, MINORITY, AND WOMEN–OWNED BUSINESSES ACCOUNT – USE OF PROCEEDS**

Authorizing funds from video lottery proceeds that are used for grants for investment capital and loans to small, minority, and women–owned businesses surrounding the video lottery facility in Allegany County to be used for those purposes anywhere in Allegany, Garrett, or Washington counties.

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

SG, § 9-1A-35(c) - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 156 Allegany County Delegation**ENVIRONMENT – BAY RESTORATION FUND – USE OF FUNDS**

Authorizing funds in the Bay Restoration Fund, in fiscal 2016, to be used to pay up to 87.5% of the total cost of projects relating to combined sewer overflows abatement, rehabilitation of existing sewers, and upgrading specified conveyance systems; and generally relating to the use of funds in the Bay Restoration Fund.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

EN, § 9-1605.2(i)(2) - amended

Assigned to: Environment and Transportation

HB 157 Delegate Holmes**CRIMINAL LAW – GAMING – HOME GAMES**

Allowing a person to conduct a home game that is a game of chance or skill involving wagering that is conducted in a person's home or a residential property restricted to housing for persons at least 55 years old and allows a player to compete directly against one or more other players; prohibiting a person from conducting a home game involving a player's use of an electronic device that connects to the Internet; and prohibiting a person from benefiting financially in any way, directly or indirectly, other than from specified winnings.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CR, §§ 12-102(a) and 13-203 - amended

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 158 Delegate Haynes, et al**STATE PERSONNEL – SERVICE CONTRACTS – REPORTING AND AUDIT REQUIREMENTS**

Altering the definition of "service contract", for purposes of provisions of law governing procurement contracts for services, to include services provided within a State-owned facility; requiring that specified units submit a specified demonstration to exclusive representatives; requiring that specified units meet with exclusive representatives to discuss alternatives to service contracts; requiring that service contracts be subject to an audit to determine compliance with specified requirements; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SP, §§ 13-401 and 13-405 - amended

Assigned to: Appropriations

HB 159 Delegate Luedtke, et al**SPECIAL EDUCATION – STANDARDS AND WORKLOAD GUIDELINES FOR TEACHERS AND RELATED SERVICES PROVIDERS**

Requiring the State Board of Education to adopt regulations that establish workload guidelines for special education teachers and related services providers; requiring the State Board to conduct a specified analysis of the administrative responsibilities of special education teachers and make specified recommendations beginning with the 2016–2017 school year; etc.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

ED, § 8-404 - amended and § 8-404.1 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 160 Delegate Vitale, et al**HANDGUN LOCKING DEVICES – REPEAL EXCLUSIVITY OF INTERNAL LOCKS – REQUIREMENTS FOR EXTERNAL OR INTERNAL LOCK SYSTEM**

Authorizing the sale, offer for sale, rental, or transfer in the State of a handgun that is sold, offered for sale, rented, or transferred with an external safety lock as an alternative to an integrated mechanical safety device.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

PS, § 5-132 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 161 Delegate Fisher, et al**PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX – INVESTMENTS IN MARYLAND**

Providing an exemption from personal property tax for property that is owned by a business that has organized under the laws of Maryland during the current tax year or that relocates its headquarters to Maryland during the current tax year; exempting specified personal property from a property tax imposed by a county or municipality for all taxable years beginning after June 30, 2017; providing that specified personal property remains subject to a county or municipal corporation property tax; etc.

Preliminary analysis: local government mandate

EFFECTIVE JUNE 1, 2015

TP, §§ 7-245 and 7-402 - added

Assigned to: Ways and Means

HB 162 Delegate Vitale, et al**STATE GOVERNMENT – MARYLAND UNIFORM ELECTRONIC LEGAL MATERIALS ACT**

Requiring an official publisher that publishes legal material in an electronic record to designate the electronic record as official, under specified circumstances, and authenticate the electronic record in a specified manner; providing that specified legal material in an electronic record is presumed to be an accurate copy of the legal material; requiring an official publisher of specified legal material in an electronic record to provide for the preservation and security of the record; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

SG, §§ 10-1601 through 10-1611 - added

Assigned to: Health and Government Operations

HB 163 Delegate Dumais**CHILD SUPPORT – ADJUSTED ACTUAL INCOME – MULTIFAMILY ADJUSTMENT**

Altering the definition of “adjusted actual income” under the State child support guidelines; providing for the calculation of a specified allowance required to be deducted from adjusted actual income under the child support guidelines; requiring that the amount of a specified allowance be subtracted from a parent’s actual income before the court determines the amount of a child support award; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, §§ 12-201(c), 12-202(a), and 12-204(a) - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 164 Delegate Dumais**JUDGMENTS – APPEALS – SUPERSEDEAS BOND**

Limiting the amount of a supersedeas bond required to stay the enforcement of a judgment in a civil action; authorizing a court to reduce further the amount of a supersedeas bond; providing a procedure by which an appellee may seek discovery for the limited purpose of determining whether an appellant has dissipated or diverted assets under specified circumstances; authorizing a court to impose specified remedies and sanctions if an appellant is found to have dissipated or diverted assets; etc.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

CJ, § 12-301.1 - added

Assigned to: Judiciary

HB 165 **Delegate Dumais****FAMILY LAW – GROUNDS FOR LIMITED DIVORCE**

Altering a specified ground for limited divorce by repealing a requirement that separation of the parties be voluntary and without a reasonable expectation of reconciliation; and repealing a specified condition precedent to granting a decree of limited divorce.

EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1, 2015

FL, § 7-102 - amended

Assigned to: Judiciary

HOUSE BILL REASSIGNED JANUARY 26, 2015**HB 51** **Chair, Judiciary Committee (By Request – Maryland Judicial Conference)****CIRCUIT COURT REAL PROPERTY RECORDS IMPROVEMENT FUND
– FUNDING**

Increasing from \$20 to \$40 the amount of the surcharge on specified recordable instruments that the State Court Administrator is required to establish for the Circuit Court Real Property Records Improvement Fund.

EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2015

CJ, § 13-604 - amended

Reassigned to: Appropriations